

# THE VOTE

THE ORGAN OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.  
NON-PARTY.

VOL. XXVIII. No. 921. (Registered at the G.P.O.)

ONE PENNY.

FRIDAY, JUNE 17, 1927

**OBJECT: To secure for Women the Parliamentary vote as it is or may be granted to men; to use the powers already obtained to elect women in Parliament, and upon other public bodies, for the purpose of establishing equality of rights and opportunities between the sexes, and to promote the social and industrial well-being of the community.**

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## MISS CHAMBERLAIN.

STEPNEY BOROUGH COUNCILLOR.

Miss Chamberlain is one of the youngest Borough Councillors in England, and is a delightful example of the new generation of young women. She has made every use of any opportunities she has met, and is an unspoiled, unaffected young gentlewoman. To meet casually, one would notice nothing extraordinary about her; she seems in no striking way different from her fellows. When she tells one, in her pleasant, well-modulated voice with no trace of any accent, ever so slight, to guide one to her birthplace, some of the things she has done and is doing, one realises that here is a force of character, of personality, of determination and endurance, which are altogether extraordinary. This young student has lived all her life in Stepney, and began her school career in the South Grove Elementary School, whence a scholarship took her to the Coborn Secondary School. Always interested in politics, Miss Chamberlain began with Local Government. She was soon co-opted on to the Libraries Committee

[Photo by]



MISS CHAMBERLAIN.

[Vaughan & Freeman.]

of the Stepney Borough Council, and, at a by-election, stood shortly after for membership of the Council itself. There were four candidates; Miss Chamberlain herself stood for Labour and was opposed by an Anti-Socialist, by a Liberal who was an ex-Mayor, and by an Inde-

pendent. The result of the poll was that Miss Chamberlain received 863 votes, the Anti-Socialist 436, the Liberal 310, and the Independent 187. The three men together polled 933, only 70 more than the one woman's 863. Not content with the work of being on a Borough

Council, Miss Chamberlain satisfies her love of statistics with a full-time job in the Statistical Department of the London County Council. That occupies her day, and she fills up her evenings with Council meetings and lectures at the London School of Economics, where she is in process of taking her B.Sc. in Economics. She is due to take her Intermediate this month, and her Degree in two or perhaps three years. With a neatness which bears evidence to her skill in statistics, she fits these various activities together. A class will finish at 7 on the very evening that a Borough Council meeting takes place at 7.30, the Statistical Department having been disposed of earlier. This cheerful and efficient young statistician also finds time, place

and opportunity for many a game of her favourite netball, played in the open.

Yet another thing is fitted into this well-filled life, the chairmanship of the Women's Section of her local Labour Party. Miss Chamberlain puts all her political

faith into the Labour Party, and believes that through that, rather than through the women themselves in their own movement, will come any easement in their conditions. She believes in an all-round equality of opportunity, but can conceive cases in industry where special legislation would be best for women, although, on the whole, she feels that equality of condition is, speaking broadly, the wisest course. She would be against a 48-hour week for women only, but in favour of ratification for all occupied in industry. She objects to the exclusion of women from the trade union of any trade in which they are employed, and is naturally, as a member of the Labour Party, very glad the Co-operatives have joined up.

With all these achievements already to her credit in scholarship and administration, Miss Chamberlain is still classed by our governors as unfit to vote.

#### WOMAN DELEGATE TO ECONOMIC CONFERENCE.

The Standing Joint Committee of Women's Industrial Organisations is arranging a meeting, under the auspices of Women's International Organisations, in Caxton Hall, on Monday, June 27th, at 2.30 p.m., when Mrs. Barbara Wootton will speak on the work of the Economic Conference, which she attended as delegate. Mrs. Wootton, Principal of Morley College, was one of the three women invited to attend the International Economic Conference held at Geneva in May this year. The other two women delegates were Dr. E. C. Van Dorp, of Utrecht University, and Dr. M. E. Luders, of the German Reichstag. The Conference was called by resolution of the League Assembly, which, after expressing the conviction that "economic peace will largely contribute to security among the nations," proclaimed "the necessity of investigating the economic difficulties which stand in the way of the revival of general prosperity, and of ascertaining the best means of overcoming these difficulties and of preventing disputes." The points discussed by the Economic Conference included "The World Economic Position," "Liberty of Trading," "Customs Tariffs," "Commercial Treaties," "Industry," and "Agriculture."

#### THE FRENCH SUFFRAGE POSITION.

In *La Française* there appears an article by Madame Brunschvicg, which indicates that the position of the Frenchwomen's fight for the suffrage follows the same course as the British one. Madame Brunschvicg describes a recent meeting, at which prominent men politicians, representing officially all the political Parties, unanimously declared for the urgent need of votes for women. All these men said they personally were in favour, and only two said that their Parties wished to go slowly and by degrees. We, in Britain, can remember many a repetition of a similar situation, but still we are only partially enfranchised, while the Frenchwomen, at least to other eyes, seem far from any kind of franchise, equal or unequal.

Madame Brunschvicg asks her readers not to care too much what the reasons may be that cause politicians of all Parties to seek the favours of the women, nor to care too much for what individual reasons, Party or private, many women declare they want the vote; the great need, she says, is to maintain a united demand. She compares the number and variety of women's associations with the number and variety of political Parties, and ends with the hope that this diversity may be accepted by men and women alike, and that all may unite without dissension upon the one aim common to all their programmes, which is—Votes for Women.

#### WOMEN AT HOME AND ABROAD.

##### The Newdigate Joke?

It has been widely reported that the winner of this year's Newdigate entered as a joke. If the result of allowing women to be educated is that they take the highest Oxford literary honour comfortably as a relaxation on their way to other things, one is not so surprised at the desire of their male competitors to keep them uneducated.

##### Women's Boat Race.

To-morrow, for the first time, women crews will race over the Oxford and Cambridge course. The contestants on this occasion are to be the Ace Rowing Club and the Weybridge Women's Amateur Rowing Club.

##### Australian Woman Minister.

The Congregationalist Church of South Australia has ordained the first woman minister in the Commonwealth. She is Mrs. Winifred Kiek, B.A., B.D.

##### "United States Mother of Woman Suffrage."

A famous character in American history, Mrs. Victoria Clafin Woodhull Martin, sister of Lady Cook of Tennessee, died on June 9th at her home near Cheltenham, aged 89. She fought strenuously for the vote in America, sent a memorial to the United States Congress in 1870, lectured throughout the States, and, in 1872, was nominated for the United States Presidency by the Equal Rights Party.

##### Woman Student's Success.

Elizabeth Stoffregen, junior of Smith College, has won one of the six scholarships, available for American students to study at the Geneva School of International Studies this year, awarded by the International Union.

#### IRISHWOMEN AND THE IRISH FREE STATE ELECTION.

There were ten women candidates in the recent Irish Free State election—one Government, three Independents, three Sinn Fein, two Fianna Fail (the two latter are Republican groups, with slightly different policy), and one Clan Eireann (anti-Government). The Farmers, Labour, and the National Party did not put up any women candidates. Four women are already elected—Mrs. Collins O'Driscoll (Government), Madame Markievicz and Mrs. Clarke (Fianna Fail), and Mrs. Bringham (Sinn Fein)—the first three for Dublin, and the last for Waterford. Three women have been defeated—one Independent, one Clan Eireann, and one Sinn Fein (Miss MacSwiney). The results for the remaining three are not yet known.

#### FACTS FOR SPEAKERS.

The *Carnarvon Herald* reports that figures recently published show that the proposed extension of the franchise to include votes for women at 21 on equal terms with men will bring on to the Register 1,950,000 women over 30, who are not on it at present. It is estimated that the number of women who will be admitted to the Register between 21 and 25 is no more than 1,590,000, while the number over 25 and under 30 is 1,700,000. The former figure is arrived at as follows: 415,000 over 21 and under 22; 405,000 over 22 and under 23; 390,000 over 23 and under 24; 380,000 over 24 and under 25. What it would mean all over the country would be that each constituency would admit on an average 700 new women voters at the age of 21. Not so very terrible, especially when you remember that if they take as much interest as men in elections, only 60 or 70 out of every hundred will trouble to vote. The young women who vote will surely be as intelligent as the young men of the same age who vote to-day.

It will be noted the number of women who would actually be 21 represents a percentage of less than 2 per cent. of the electorate.

#### NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING.

A meeting of the National Executive Committee was held at the Women's Freedom League Offices last Saturday, those present being Mrs. Schofield Coates, J.P. (Chairman), Mrs. Brading (Portsmouth), Miss Alix M. Clark (Montgomery Boroughs), Mrs. Dexter, Miss Anna Munro, Miss M. I. Neal (Manchester), Miss C. Neal (Swansea), Mrs. Pierotti, Miss Reeves, Mrs. Zangwill, the Hon. Treasurer, and the Secretary.

Regrets for absence were received from Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence (President), who was on her way to Geneva, from Miss Ross, and from Mrs. Stedman. Reports were considered and adopted from the Hon. Treasurer, the Secretary, the Hon. Organising Secretary (Mrs. Whetton), and from the political, literature, and Vote Sales Departments. Dr. Knight reported that arrangements were well in hand for Mrs. Despard's Birthday Party, which would be held at Caxton Hall, on Tuesday evening, July 5th. Collecting cards had been distributed, and it was hoped to collect a record sum to present on that date to Mrs. Despard (who was coming specially from Ireland for the purpose) for the funds of the Women's Freedom League. The Committee was delighted to learn from Miss E. Berry that she had kindly consented to organise our Green, White and Gold Fair, which is to be held at Caxton Hall, November 23rd and 24th.

Since the last meeting of the Committee, Miss Anna Munro has spoken at public meetings held in Rothesay, Dunoon and Edinburgh. Mrs. Schofield Coates, J.P., and Miss Munro have spoken at public meetings in Darlington. Excellent activities were reported from Glasgow and Portsmouth. Garden meetings are being arranged in Bexhill and Hastings, and Dr. Lewin is to speak at Rye, on July 1st, and at Hastings Garden Party on the following day. A report was given of the recent John Stuart Mill Commemoration in London, and the Committee sent a message of cordial thanks to the Editor of the *Manchester Guardian* for its appreciative account of the proceedings. As part of the work of the Equal Political Rights Campaign Committee, open-air meetings on behalf of Equal Franchise have been held at Highbury Corner and in Hyde Park by the Women's Freedom League, and we have sent speakers on the same subject to indoor meetings arranged by outside societies. A garden meeting is being arranged at 8, Heath Gate, Hampstead Garden Suburb (by kind permission of Mrs. Corbett Fisher), on the evening of July 1st, Equal Franchise again being the subject-matter to be discussed.

Miss Anna Munro was appointed as the Women's Freedom League representative to attend the annual meetings of the National Council of Women, to be held in Bournemouth in October, the resolution sent forward by the Committee for its agenda being as follows:—"That the National Council of Women demands equal opportunities, equal conditions, and equal pay for women and men in the professions, in industry, and throughout all branches of our national life. It calls upon all progressive women to unite in preventing the imposition of special restrictions upon the work of women, and to fight side by side for the right of married women to undertake paid work."

The Committee also gave its support to resolutions sent by other societies on Equal Franchise, raising the legal age of marriage, and the inclusion of more women of expert knowledge of local conditions on the advisory and administrative bodies of Emigration Boards, both at home and abroad.

Plans of work for the Brixton by-election were discussed, and the Committee unanimously passed the following resolution to be sent to Mr. Baldwin:—"The Women's Freedom League congratulates the Prime Minister on his firm advocacy of Equal Franchise for men and women at the age of 21, but has noted with disquietude the change of plans of His Majesty's Government, by which the commencement of next Session is postponed until 1928, and, in order to ensure

that women shall have equal voting rights with men at the next General Election, calls upon the Government to introduce and carry into law this Session its promised Equal Franchise Bill."

#### MRS. DESPARD'S BIRTHDAY FUND.

DEAR FELLOW-MEMBERS AND "VOTE" READERS,

I am delighted to announce, and you will be very pleased to hear, that our beloved Mrs. Despard has arranged to come to us as usual early next month, and she has fixed Tuesday, July 5th, 7 p.m., at Caxton Hall, Westminster, for her Birthday Party.

This will be the sixteenth year that we have had this annual gathering of the League, and we shall rejoice to come again and bring our love and congratulations to our dear First-President, who brought to us the ideal and the inspiration from which sprang the Women's Freedom League, our splendid League so dear to every member. It will be a joyful evening, with songs, music, flowers, and the greetings of old friends and comrades, but we must bring our Birthday Gift, *Mrs. Despard's Birthday Fund*, for the work of the League. Every name is read out to her, and we must have many new names this year and a long list of contributions.

Money we must have to win our fight; never were the skies so bright as to-day, but only our own work and effort will gather in the harvest.

Organisers and workers everywhere must be busy all through this summer and autumn rousing public interest, educating the careless and giving voice to the mass of dumb sympathy and inarticulate support for the equal vote which exists throughout the country.

The forces of reaction and prejudice are united against us. We must be able to put into the field such an overwhelming mass of informed and determined public demand for equality, that Mr. Baldwin will be able to carry through his Equal Franchise Bill against any possible opposition.

Work means money, and this year's Birthday Fund must be a record one. We need £1,000 for the work before us to seize this great opportunity for the victory of political equality. Please make a special effort now and prevent wasteful years of future struggling for the vote.

Every contribution, large or small, will be gratefully acknowledged—get your friends to help you and to join the League, and bring them to the Party, that we may succeed and gladden our dear and honoured lady with our £1,000.

Relying on you to do all that is possible, with best wishes and warmest thanks for all your past support,

Yours sincerely,

E. KNIGHT, *Hon. Treasurer*

Women's Freedom League,  
144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

#### WOMEN AT OXFORD.

Congregation of Oxford University, last Tuesday, carried, by 229 votes to 164, the preamble of the Statute limiting the number of women students in residence. The meeting was held in the Sheldonian Theatre, in the presence of a very large attendance. Among those who voted in favour of limiting the number of women was Lord Birkenhead. By the decision arrived at, the number of women at Oxford University is limited to the ratio of one woman to four men. Speeches in favour of the proposed limitation were made by the Principal of Hertford and by the Principal of Jesus, while the women's cause was championed by Mr. Cyril Bailey, of Balliol, and Miss Marjorie Fry, Principal of Somerville. Mr. Bailey said that, even in this effeminate, modern Oxford, he still felt himself a man, and he was galled by the suggestion that he must gather together three more of his own kind in order to be equal to one woman.

## THE VOTE.

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### EDITORIAL.

The Editor is responsible for unsigned articles only. Articles, paragraphs, or cuttings dealing with matters of interest to women generally will be welcomed. Every effort will be made to return unsuitable MSS. if stamped addressed envelope be enclosed, but the Editor cannot be responsible in case of loss.

### LABOUR AND FEMINISM.

During the discussions upon the Director's Report at the International Labour Office Conference at Geneva, on June 5th, Miss Margaret Bondfield, speaking as Adviser to the British Delegate, dealt with three aspects of industry. Her first was protective legislation for women; her second, maternity mortality; her third, the employment of children. We are here only, for the moment, concerned with the first, and we note that Miss Bondfield somewhat confuses the issue by using the words "protective legislation," where a more accurate phrase would be "special protective legislation." By this use, Miss Bondfield gives an impression that there is objection to protective legislation in industry as such, which is not the case; the objection Miss Bondfield alludes to, that comes from the organised women of Great Britain, is to protective legislation applied to women and not to men, a totally different objection.

Miss Bondfield alludes to a "Paris Conference," presumably the Conference of the International Woman's Suffrage Alliance in 1926, which certainly declared itself against differential legislation for women in industry. She then goes on to what she calls "a large and representative conference of the British Section of women represented in Paris, and they have modified the views expressed at the Paris Conference. They have decided that, in regard to protective legislation for women, each case shall be judged on its merits, and that the working women concerned shall be consulted." As the final sentence of this occurs in a resolution brought forward at the 1927 Annual Meeting of the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, we believe Miss Bondfield means this meeting when she uses the words "large and representative Conference of the British Section of women represented in Paris," and, if so, she would have been a more accurate and useful "Adviser" if she had divulged the fact that the resolution containing the sentence she uses was carried after keen discussion by only one vote, and its passage led to wholesale resignations and breakaways. The only other Conference was one on the Factories (No. 2) Bill, called by the Standing Joint Committee of Industrial Women's Organisations, held at the end of November, 1926. To this, some non-Party societies were invited, others were not, and several were refused admission. A formal resolution was put to this Conference, no amendments were allowed, and restrictive or protective legislation ruled out of order. It would seem, therefore, that Miss Bondfield has in mind the annual meeting referred to above. As a Party woman, Miss Bondfield holds aloof from the non-Party women's organisations, and is thus very liable to fall into error as to their composition and their inter-relation. Such a liability is a danger which the International Labour Office could avoid by selecting its delegates and advisers from a wider field than the political Party one. They must receive the Party view, which is often, as it turns out in this particular instance, misleading. Anyone with knowledge of the non-Party woman's movement in Britain cannot fail to be impressed by the strength of its convictions on this subject of differential

legislation imposed upon women in industry. In any existing society, where perhaps some original members or officials are not clear on it, there occurs a hiving-off, the formation of new societies, all of whose members are at one in protesting against differentiation.

Miss Bondfield goes on to indulge in the old gibe that "those bodies of women" are not working in industry, an argument which is scarcely worthy of a former Minister, and one which, if carried to its logical conclusion, would deplete the ranks of official Labour of much valuable support and leadership.

Miss Bondfield then uses a phrase which begs the question. She says: "It is all very well to have an abstract theory about equality," by which we understand her to accuse those who oppose differential legislation for women in industry of having "abstract theories about equality." Never was a "theory" less abstract than this "theory of equality" held by feminists. It is based on knowledge of facts, on historical study, and below its basic knowledge is the deep spring of spiritual intuition. First, the intuition, then the study leading to the sure knowledge tested by experience, all building up to the conviction that "equality" is the best protection, and "inequality" the worst.

On Miss Bondfield's concluding assertions that "protective legislation" applied only to women has not weakened their collective bargaining power; that under it women's employment has increased; that women's labour is non-permanent and therefore necessitates "protective legislation"; that, to quote her own words, "Women have gained in status. They have gained in economic advantage. Employers have gained in more efficient organisation, and the State has gained more efficient citizens as the result of the regulation of women's employment," we would only here say that all this is entirely denied by those who, belonging to the women's non-Party movement, take their stand against the imposition upon the woman worker of restrictions which it is not attempted to impose upon the man worker.

The Labour Party no more than the Conservative Party or the Liberal Party is in a position to advise upon and speak for the enormous number of women organised into non-Party groups. The position of women in the official Party ranks, their exclusion from trade unions, etc., makes any Party member a misleading guide to international bodies. Miss Bondfield is pre-eminently first and foremost a Labour woman, and, consciously or unconsciously, her views are tinged by the dominating men of that Party. She is not and never has been in the wider non-Party woman's movement, and, in giving the above misleading account of the position in Britain, is speaking obviously with perfect truth, as she sees it from within somewhat narrow Party boundaries.

Feminists have often protested against the pronouncements of the International Labour Office, with its out-of-date paternal tendency to treat women as something inferior and as something not to be consulted, but only to be legislated for from outside, and it is an added cause of protest that, when it does appoint women to any kind of responsibility, it should choose one to whom all honour is due as a magnificent worker in her own Party, one whose honesty is above suspicion, one who is deservedly personally popular with all Parties, but one who is inside a Party, one who is outside the larger non-Party movement, one who is, in fact, and we admit it with regret, not a feminist.

### MRS. DESPARD'S BIRTHDAY PARTY.

Caxton Hall,  
 TUESDAY, JULY 5th, AT 7 P.M.  
 Come early and bring all your friends.

## NOTES FROM THE FOREIGN PRESS.

By MARIAN BERRY.

The married woman's right to work is a difficulty not only in England but in many other countries as well. Recently, the Association of German Married Women Teachers circulated an inquiry among their members relating to the employment of married women teachers. Five hundred questionnaires were issued, and 162 replies have been received, of which 110 came from Prussia. Sixty, namely 37 per cent., of those who replied were still teaching, but the remaining 102—nearly 63 per cent.—had been obliged to relinquish their posts. The situation was found to be particularly unfavourable in Bavaria, Mecklenberg, and Brunswick, the answers showing that in these States no married women had retained their positions. In Berlin, the conditions are more satisfactory, as, out of 39 replies, 22 married women teachers were still at work. Only seven women, nearly 5.9 per cent., had themselves desired to discontinue their teaching work after marriage.

Not long since the Finnish women celebrated their 20th anniversary of the formation of their Association for securing Equal Rights for Women, and an interesting account of these meetings is given in *Die Frau*, by Dr. Gertrude Bäumer, who was one of the speakers. In view of the dual languages, the Conference was divided into two sections, one being held in the Finnish language, and the other in Swedish-Finnish. The subjects discussed were identical to those which are concerning all organised women, namely, Work and Motherhood; the Protection of the Employed Woman; and the importance of Household Economics.

Referring to the position of the employed woman in Finland, Dr. Bäumer points out that it is better in some ways than in Germany, and lays stress on the many

important posts held by women, both in Government and commercial departments. In the higher professions, many women continue their work after marriage, and it is considered natural for them to do so. Social legislation is considered from the aspect of the "woman's right to work," and this is particularly the case in regard to protective legislation for the employed woman. It is feared that the abolition of nightwork for women may prevent their employment. The two main industries—wood and paper—are carried on in the country, where they are the only possible means of employment. If women cannot undertake nightwork, it is likely that they will cease to be employed, and the girls will be forced to leave their homes and to seek work in the towns. The seasonal aspect of the work and the light summer nights make the position somewhat different from nightwork as it is found in an industrial country. The able woman Minister, Frau Sillanpää, is in favour of the abolition of nightwork for women.

Domestic economics are a vital question in Finland. For many years there has existed a large Association of Housewives, which is particularly strong in the country areas, and was a powerful influence against the Russianisation of the land. The Association has been largely instrumental in securing the recognition of housewifery as a definite and skilled profession.

Of the 200 Members of Parliament, 18 are women. The present Government is socialistic in character; the immediate political problems are the maintenance and safety of the new State, and such social questions as housing, treatment of tuberculosis, and methods of dealing with criminals. At present Children's Courts have not been established in Finland.

### EQUAL POLITICAL RIGHTS CAMPAIGN.

**GREAT**

**TRAFALGAR**

**SATURDAY, JULY 16th,**  
 At 5 p.m.

**SQUARE**

**DEMONSTRATION.**

### BRITISH COMMONWEALTH LEAGUE.

A most interesting Conference has been arranged on "The Social and Industrial Positions of Women of Other than British Race Governed under the British Flag," to take place at the Royal Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi.

#### CONFERENCE.

On June 30th, the Conference will open at 10.15, with an address by Mrs. Corbett-Ashby, President of the International Suffrage Alliance and this year's President of the Women's Liberal Federation. This will be followed by discussions on

#### INDUSTRIALISM

among women in British Concessions, in India, and in South Africa, taken by speakers from the countries concerned. Amongst other interesting speakers is Miss Ho Tung, a young Chinese university student, who is to give some account of industrialism in Hong Kong. Miss Ho Tung holds a degree from the University of Shanghai, and has come to England to study social and economic conditions in general. In the afternoon, from 2.15 p.m., Mr. John Harris will deal with "Some Servitudes of Women" in Mandated Territories, and Miss Alison Neilans, with "The Traffic in Women and Children within the British Empire."

On July 1st, the Conference will again open at 10 a.m., and the discussions will be in the following order:

#### "CONDITIONS OF LIFE AND LAW"

for women in Bermuda, the Pacific Islands; the Australian aboriginal woman and the Maori woman in

New Zealand; the speakers again having first-hand knowledge of their subject.

Following the discussion on general conditions will come an

#### EDUCATIONAL SECTION.

dealing in the morning with education among women on the Gold Coast, and in the afternoon with women in India.

The Conference will then deal with

#### PROBLEMS OF GOVERNMENT

and will vote upon resolutions on Women and Nationality; The Franchise: (a) in Great Britain, (b) in South Africa, (c) in Bermuda.

#### DELEGATE TICKETS.

Non-affiliated societies may send two voting delegates and two alternates; 5s. 6d. per person. Affiliated societies may send four voting members and four alternates; 3s. 6d. per person.

#### SOCIAL SECTION.

In addition to the formal Conference meetings, the following have been arranged:—

#### RECEPTION.

On June 29th, at 9 p.m., there is to be a reception at the Lyceum Club, when the Duchess of Atholl, M.P., Viscountess Astor, M.P., Miss Ellen Wilkinson, M.P., and Miss Susan Lawrence, M.P., will be the guests of honour. Members' tickets, to include supper, 3s.; non-members, 3s. 6d.

## LUNCHEON.

On Thursday, June 30th, there is to be a luncheon at 1 p.m., at the Criterion, when Lady Galway will be the principal speaker. Members, 5s. 6d.; non-members, 6s.

## GARDEN PARTY.

On Friday, July 1st, for those attending the Conference, a garden party is being given by Mrs. Ibbotson Hutt, at Wandle Bank, Wallingford, when a Sussex team will give an exhibition of English folk dancing. Refreshments will be provided at the opening of the garden party, which is from 6.15 to 10 p.m. Arrangements have been made for private buses to convey guests to and from Wandle Bank. These will start from 17, Buckingham Street, Adelphi, at 5 p.m.; return fare, 3s.

## TICKETS.

All applications for tickets and bookings should be made to Miss Collisson, 17, Buckingham Street, Adelphi, W.C.2, and must be received by her not later than two days before each event.

## 'THE BRIDGE.'

By KATE O'BRIEN, of the Minerva Club Branch.

By her play, "The Bridge" (performed for a week by the Arts Theatre Club), Kate O'Brien has established her right to be considered one of the modern dramatists who count. Unlike her earlier play, "Distinguished Villa," which dealt with suburban life, "The Bridge" deals with life in an English country house. The first act shows Lisa, 11 years married to a man who is happy in the belief that his home and his concerns supply all the interest in life that she needs. We see her care for his elderly, exacting sister, for his young niece and nephew—the love affair of one and the career of the other claiming her full sympathy and advice—and we see her half-amused indulgence when her husband and her girlhood's friend, Fanny, carry on a flirtation, and separately insist, in spite of her efforts to prevent them, in confessing to her. Into this household comes Gene Rafferty, an Irishman and a bridge builder, a man of so strong and vital a personality that everything in the situation seems changed. The love between him and Lisa is so strong that neither attempts to hide it from the other, but, while it is guessed or discovered by the niece and nephew, it is apparently unsuspected by the husband himself. Needless to say, Lisa sends away her lover. She knows that if she went with him, she would be haunted by the ghosts of those things which have made her life for so long, and those people who need her and whom she really loves.

The characters are finely drawn and the whole play was exceedingly well acted. The part of Lisa was beautifully played by Fay Compton, and rarely has she been seen in a part so entirely suited to her, or which gives the audience so excellent an opportunity of enjoying the beauty of her acting and the charm of her personality without one note that jars. The other characters were well played by Frances Ruttledge, Joan Harben, Ernest Mainwaring, Violet Campbell, Henry Hoare, Walter Hudd, George Relph and F. V. Owen. The play was produced by George Owen.

We congratulate Miss O'Brien on her cast, but more particularly on her play, which we hope to see in one of the regular theatres, and which certainly gives us reason to look forward with confidence and keen anticipation to her future work, and to be doubly proud of our talented Minerva Club Branch member. M. R.

"I can't give you a job," he said sorrowfully, "because, as a matter of principle, I never employ women. All the same, I sympathise. It must be hard to have so much intelligence and yet no money."

She rose.

"Not half so pathetic," she said in an even voice, "as having so much money and no intelligence. Good afternoon."

## BOOK REVIEW.

*Josephine Butler: An Appreciation.* By E. M. Turner. Price 6d. Published by the Association of Moral and Social Hygiene. (Can be obtained from this Office.)

This little brochure is concise and well written, and contains much information in its 22 pages. Josephine Butler (though a younger generation seems to have forgotten her) remains "one of the great people of the world," and her name will live for ever for the courage and devotion with which she fought, at first almost single-handed, for an unpleasant and unpopular cause. The Contagious Diseases Acts were a distinct violation of English law; and to this delicately nurtured woman, in her beautiful home in the Cathedral precincts of Winchester, came the call to go forth and fight the battle for the women of the underworld, sacrificed body and soul to the lust of man. Perhaps only those amongst us old enough to remember the prudery and conventions of those Mid-Victorian years can realise the courage and determination of the wife of this Canon in her single-handed struggle against the State regulation of vice. To the honour and glory of Canon Butler, he sympathised with his wife, and had the privilege of being howled down at a Church Congress at Oxford, in 1871, for attempting to read a paper on the subject.

"This system," writes Mrs. Butler in 1873, "necessitates the greatest crime of which earth can be witness, the crime of blotting out the soul by depriving God's creatures of free will, of choice, and of responsibility, and by reducing the human being to the condition of a passive, suffering minister to the basest passions. Yet no power can make of her a mere thing, for the soul awaits the day when it will face its destroyer, and the human nature will yet be avenged of its adversary."

Right triumphed in 1886, and Josephine Butler proved herself no emotional visionary, but a clear-sighted realist, for "the mystic," says Dean Inge, "has a clear vision of eternal ideas, and can apprehend the unity that lies behind them."

Few scientists would now defend State-controlled vice. There is yet, however, no complete victory for women, as the late Mr. Waddy observed in his Police Court, corroborated also by Mr. Forbes Lancaster. Also we have in our minds 40D, and the late events in Scotland.

M. W. NEVINSON, J.P.

## DAME MILLCENT FAWCETT.

A charming ceremony took place at Crosby Hall last Saturday. Dame Millicent Fawcett, beloved of all suffragists, had refused to accept a birthday present from friends on her 80th birthday. Determined in some way to mark the occasion, Dame Millicent's many friends decided to endow a room in Crosby Hall as her room. Crosby Hall is a University Hall of Residence for students of all nations doing post graduate work in London. Nations and societies have endowed rooms, others have furnished rooms, and the Dame Millicent Fawcett room is one of some 50 study-bedrooms, furnished well, to enable students to live and to work in appropriate surroundings. The ceremony was performed of handing the required £1,000 to Dame Millicent, who then handed it to the Crosby Hall Endowment Fund. Crosby Hall is not quite completed, but only finishing touches are now required to prepare it for its formal opening on July 1st, when Her Majesty the Queen has graciously consented to open it in person. University women from many nations are coming over to do honour to the occasion.

Dame Millicent is again to be the chief guest at a Garden Party in her honour, given by the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, at Aubrey House, on June 27th. Other guests include Mrs. Stanley Baldwin and Dame Rachel Crowdy.

## Women's Freedom League.

Offices: 144, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.1.

Telephone:—MUSEUM 1429.  
Telegrams:—"DESAPARD, MUSEUM 1429, LONDON."  
Colours—GREEN, WHITE AND GOLD.  
President—Mrs. PETHICK-LAWRENCE.  
Hon. Treasurer—Dr. E. KNIGHT.  
Hon. Organising Secretary—Mrs. WHETTON.  
General Secretary—Miss F. A. UNDERWOOD.

## WHERE TO GO.

## WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

## LONDON AND SUBURBS.

Friday, June 17th at 3 p.m.

"Fair" Sub-Committee Meeting at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

Monday, June 20th, at 5.30 p.m.

Minerva Club Branch Meeting at 56, Hunter Street, Brunswick Square, W.C.1.

Friday, July 1st, at 8 p.m.

Equal Political Rights Campaign. Garddn Meeting at 8, Heath Gate, Hampstead Garden Suburb.

Tuesday, July 5th, at 7 p.m.

Mrs. Despard's Birthday Party, at Caxton Hall.

## DARE TO BE FREE.

Friday, July 15th, at 5 p.m.

Meeting of Organisation Sub-Committee at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

Saturday, July 16th, at 10 a.m.

National Executive Committee Meeting at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

## PROVINCES.

Wednesday, June 22nd, at 3 p.m.

Portsmouth. Garden Whist Drive at 14, Festing Grove. Tickets 1/6 each.

Friday, July 1st, at 3.30 p.m.

Ashford. Garden Party. Further details later.

Friday, July 1st, at 3 p.m.

Rye Branch. Meeting at the Monastery. Speaker: Dr. Lewin, on "Born healthy—Keep fit." The Mayor, Councillor G. Ellis, J.P., in the Chair.

Saturday, July 2nd, at 3 p.m.

Hastings Branch. Garden Party at "Rossiana," Pine Avenue. Address by Dr. Lewin.

Saturday, July 2nd.

Portsmouth Branch. Garden Party at Rowland's Castle, given by Mrs. Whitehead.

## SCOTLAND.

Saturday, June 18th, at 3 p.m.

Glasgow. Cake and Candy Fair, in the McLellan Galleries. To be opened by Dr. Catherine Chapman.

## OTHER SOCIETIES.

Saturday, June 18th, at 5.30 p.m.

Equal Political Rights Campaign. Meeting in Hyde Park, arranged by the National Union of Women Teachers. Speaker: Miss Froud.

Sunday, June 19th, at 7.30 p.m.

Equal Political Rights Campaign. Meeting arranged by St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance, at "Jack Straw's Castle," Hampstead Heath.

Sunday, June 19th at 12.30 p.m.

Equal Political Rights Campaign. Meeting in Regent's Park, arranged by the League of the Church Militant.

Sunday, June 19th, at 3.30 p.m.

The Guildhouse, Eccleston Square. Course of Addresses on "Ancient Civilisations." C. Leonard Woolley on "Recent Discoveries at Ur."

Monday, June 20th, at 8 p.m.

The Speech Club, Minerva Club, Brunswick Square. The Modern Woman Series No. III, "In India." Speaker: Lady Chatterjee.

Thursday, June 23rd, at 7.30 p.m.

Equal Political Rights Campaign. Meeting at Highbury Corner, arranged by the National Union of Women Teachers.

Saturday, June 25th, at 5.30 p.m.

Equal Political Rights Campaign. Meeting in Hyde Park arranged by the Six Point Group.

Monday, June 27th, 4-6 p.m.

Garden Party, Aubrey House, 11a Aubrey Walk, W.8. For further details see advertisement in next column.

Wednesday, June 29th, at 9 p.m.

Reception. British Commonwealth League, Lyceum Club.

Thursday, June 30th, at 2.40 p.m.

Parents' National Educational Union. Annual Meeting open to Members and Friends. Dr. Cyril Norwood on "The English Tradition in Education." Mr. Michael Franklin on "Improvements of American Life and Education The Most Hon. the Marchioness of Aberdeen and Temair in the Chair.

Thursday, June 30th, and Friday, July 1st, at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

At the Royal Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi. Conference arranged by the British Commonwealth League, on "The Social and Industrial Position of Women of other than British Race governed under the British Flag."

Saturday, July 1st, at 5 p.m.

Equal Political Rights Campaign. Great Trafalgar Square Demonstration for Votes for Women.

## BRANCH NOTES.

## PORTSMOUTH.

A Garden Party has been arranged for Saturday afternoon. Mrs. Brading entertained the members at her house. Miss Cory and Mrs. Lamsley sang several songs, which were greatly appreciated. After coffee had been served, a short business meeting was held. It was decided to ask the members to give at least 1s. each to our donation to the Birthday Fund.

Mrs. Poole gave a very full and interesting account of the Annual Conference. Votes of thanks to Mrs. Poole for her report, and to Mrs. Brading for her generous hospitality, to Mrs. Lamsley and Miss Cory, concluded a most enjoyable evening.

On Saturday, July 2nd, Mrs. Whitehead has invited members and friends to tea and a ramble at Rowland's Castle. Return fare, 1s. 3d.

Gratefully acknowledged for Birthday Fund.—Collection at Mrs. Brading's, 12s. 6d.; Mrs. Sawyer, 1s.; Mrs. Watkin, 1s.; Mrs. Cory, 1s.; Miss Cory, 1s.; Miss Farebrother, 1s.; Mrs. Whetton, 1s. (Hon. Sec.) Mrs. WHETTON.

## HASTINGS.

A Garden Party has been arranged for Saturday afternoon, July 2nd, at 3 p.m., to take place at "Rossiana," Pine Avenue. Dr. Lewin will speak during the afternoon. (Hon. Sec.) Miss M. L. RANCE.

## RYE.

A Meeting is to be held here, at the Monastery, on Friday, July 1st, at 3 p.m. Councillor G. Ellis, J.P., the Mayor of Rye, will take the Chair, and Dr. Lewin will speak on "Born Healthy—Keep Fit." (Organiser) Miss WHITE.

## MONTGOMERY BOROUGH.

We have discussed the Conference resolutions with many branch members, and explained the recent work of the League.

Aberystwith, Llanfyllin, Welshpool, Caersws, and Carno have all been visited, new members made, and, up to the present, about £10 collected for the Birthday Fund. (Hon. Sec.) ALIX CLARK.

## SUFFRAGETTE PRISONERS' DINNER.

Twenty-one years ago—on June 21st, 1906—the first suffragette was arrested in London. The occasion was the presentation of a letter to Mr. Asquith, at his residence in Cavendish Square; the prisoner was Miss Teresa Billington—now Mrs. Billington Greig—and she was accompanied and supported by Miss Annie Kenney, Mrs. Knight and Mrs. Sharkara.

A Suffragette Prisoners' Dinner is being held on Tuesday, June 21st, at the Restaurant, Craig's Court, Whitehall, to celebrate the occasion, and it is hoped there will be a great rally of ex-prisoners to meet and greet one another. The hour will be 7-45 p.m., and ordinary dress may be worn.

## EQUAL POLITICAL RIGHTS CAMPAIGN IN HYDE PARK.

A large and most interested audience was addressed by Miss Anna Munro and Miss Froud, supported by a number of Women's Freedom League members, last Sunday afternoon, at 3 p.m. Miss New, of our Minerva Club branch, made her first suffrage speech, and impressed those present with the folly of denying her citizenship. So great was the desire of the crowd to take this opportunity of obtaining answers to many points which worried them, that the meeting had to be kept on for 2½ hours.

## S.O.S.

## Members wanted next Tuesday to see M.P.s.

The Women's Freedom League is responsible for the Lobbying next Tuesday, June 21st. Miss Reeves is in charge, and will be in the Lobby at 5.30 p.m. Please come then if you can to start off well, and go at once to Miss Reeves to say you are there. Lobbying will continue all the evening. Both members and friends will be welcomed, and it is very effective and interesting work.

## NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES for EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

The President and Executive Committee propose to hold a

## GARDEN PARTY

on MONDAY, JUNE 27th, from 4-6 p.m.

at Aubrey House, 11a, Aubrey Walk, Kensington, W.8.

(By kind permission of the Misses Alexander.)

AMONG THE GUESTS OF HONOUR WILL BE

MRS. STANLEY BALDWIN.

DAME MILLCENT FAWCETT, G.B.E.,

DAME RACHEL CROWDY.

Tickets, 2/6, to include Tea. To be obtained from the Secretary:—National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, 15, Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W.1.

FRIDAY,  
JUNE 17,  
1927.

# THE VOTE

ONE  
PENNY  
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**THE VOTE, 144, High Holborn, W.C. 1.**

## REST AND HOLIDAYS.

**BRIGHTON.**—"Sea View," Victoria Road. Midday dinner. Gas fires in Bedrooms. Wireless. Vegetarians catered for.—Hostess: Miss TURNER.

**RYE, SUSSEX.**—OLD HOPE ANCHOR. Ideal Guest House. Modern comforts; good cooking. Separate Vegetarian cooking a speciality. Write for booklet.

**FRENCH ALPS.**—Furnished Chalet to let. View Mt. Blanc, Seven beds, bath, inside sanitation.—"E.C.F.," 31, Meadhurst Road, Leicester.

**DORSET COAST.**—March to Sept. Two sitting-rooms; kitchen; three bedrooms, beds—four single, one double; bathroom (h. & c.); garage. Bridport Station, 2½ miles. Golf links and sea, 10 minutes.—Miss F. RENDALL, 6, West-cliff Road, Shipley, Yorks.

**YORKSHIRE MOORS.**—Apartments. Sitting and 1 or 2 bedrooms; inside sanitation; bath; garden.—ROBINSON, 6, South View, Eldwick, Bingley, Yorks.

**NEAR FOLKESTONE.**—Three friends offer a charming holiday home; large garden; tennis; garage.—Miss HASLAM, The Grey House, Lyminge, Kent.

**CORNWALL.**—Guests. Lady's country Cottage. Picturesque situation; 3 miles sea, Perranporth. Sanitation; Garage. Accessible to all interesting places.—"VOTE Office," 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

**BATH.**—Member desires holiday guests. Good centre; music; bridge; own car; bath h. and c. Terms reasonable.—Apply 2, Lower Oldfield Park, Bath.

**SARK, CHANNEL ISLANDS.**—Cottage to let, furnished. 2 reception; 4 bedrooms; oil-cooking; farm produce. June, July, 4 gns. per week; August, September, 5 gns.—STEWART, Dixcart, Sark.

**BATH.**—2 miles, ¼ hour by tram. Vegetarian Guest House. Large garden; plentiful fruit; electric light. Good excursion centre. From £2 5s.—TOLLE-MACHE, Bathaston.

**BOSCOMBE,** Bournemouth, 39, Park-wood Road. Comfortable Board-residence; 2 mins. cliffs; good locality. Terms from 2½ gns.—Miss MILLER.

## TO LET.

**BOARD-RESIDENCE** in small com-  
fortable home at Leamington Spa.  
Suit business woman, or lady requiring  
care.—Box J.M.F., THE VOTE, 144, High  
Holborn, W.C.1.

**HAMPTON COURT.**—Near Palace,  
facing river. Furnished Flat for two;  
garden; no attendance.—Write "K," 238,  
Evering Road, Clapton, London.

**CARAVAN,** furnished, to let. Sussex.  
—Apply NEWMAN, 26, St. Ann's  
Terrace, St. John's Wood, N.W.8.

**FURNISHED** Self-contained Flat, 6  
months or longer. 3 rooms, bath-  
room. Prince's Square, near Kensington  
Gardens. 2nd floor. Gas, electric light.  
—Apply E.G.F., 144, High Holborn, W.C.

## FOR SALE.

**NEW** Brick Bungalow, double fronted,  
square bays; verandah; six rooms,  
bath (h. & c.); inside sanitation; Co.'s  
water; good bus service; pretty piece  
woodland; ¼ acre. Price freehold, £650.  
£500 mortgage obtainable.—MOCKFORD,  
Eastcote, Kingsnorth, Ashford, Kent.

**£12.** Long, transparent Amber Neck-  
lace. Guaranteed 2,000 years  
old, in antique box brought recently from  
China.—Write Box A.B.C., THE VOTE  
Office, 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

**CLOTTED CREAM,** 3/- lb., post free.  
Furnished House to let at NEWQUAY,  
5 rooms; also Flat—Apply SELSEY, St.  
Stephen's, St. Austell, Cornwall.

## TRADE ANNOUNCEMENTS.

**64-PAGE BOOK ABOUT HERBS  
AND HOW TO USE THEM.** 2d.  
Send for one.—TRIMNELL, The Herbalist,  
144, Richmond Road, Cardiff. Est. 1879.

**SPRING CLEANING.**—Send us for  
"Sensa," the perfect cleaner, tins 1/6  
and 3/-. and the perfect knife sharpener, 3/9,  
as sold at the Spring Sale, also for "Mutax,"  
the little dry-cleaning clothes-brush, 10/-,  
and help your League. Postage extra.—  
144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

## ADVERTISEMENT RATES.

Prepaid classified, 1½d. per word. Dis-  
count allowed for series, particulars of  
which will be supplied on application.

## CLUBS.

**ISIS CLUB,** 79, Fitzjohn's Avenue  
(2 minutes Hampstead Tube Station).  
Magnificent Reception Rooms. Central  
heating. Sunny bedrooms. Sandy soil.  
Lectures, dancing, listening-in. Telephone:  
Hampstead 2869.

**MINERVA CLUB,** 56, Hunter Street,  
Brunswick Square, W.C.1. Open to  
non-residents. Restaurant. Smoking Room.  
Papers. Library. Bedrooms available at  
holiday times. Membership, £1 ls.  
Entrance Fee suspended during present  
year. All particulars from the SECRETARY.  
Telephone: Museum 4791.

## NOTICES.

**SUFFRAGETTE PRISONERS' DINNER**  
Tuesday, June 21, 7.45 p.m. at the Restau-  
rant, Craig's Court, Whitehall. Tickets 4/-.  
—Apply NINA BOYLE, 6, Balcombe St.,  
N.W.1.

**INCOME TAX RECOVERED AND  
ADJUSTED.**—Consult Miss H. M.  
BAKER, 275, High Holborn, W.C.1.  
Income Tax Returns, Repayment Claims of  
all Descriptions. Telephone: Holborn 0377.

**FELLOWSHIP SERVICES.**—Guild-  
house, Eccleston Square, S.W.1.  
Sunday, June 19th, 1927. 3.30. Music.  
Lecture. C. L. Woolley, Esq. 6.30. Maude  
Royden: "Is the God of Nature the God  
of Christ?"

**PUBLIC SPEAKING.**—Lectures,  
classes, and private lessons. Saturday  
Speech Club.—Miss LUCY BELL, Minerva  
Club, Brunswick Square, W.C.1. Tel.:  
Museum 4791.

## HOTEL.

**MONTAGUE HOTEL,** Montague  
Street, Russell Square, London,  
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4660. (Highly Recommended.)

## EDUCATIONAL.

**AUTO-EDUCATION,"** 46, Gt. Russell  
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invites parents and teachers to consult her  
as to Teaching Appliances.

## WANTED.

**A GOOD SUFFRAGIST,** to help on the  
Clyde Coast Campaign. About  
July 15—August 15. Expenses paid. Apply  
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## Membership Application Form.

To be returned to the Secretary, 144, High  
Holborn, London, W.C. 1.

Please enrol me as a Member of the Women's  
Freedom League.

Name .....

Address .....

I enclose £ : s. d. as my first  
Annual Subscription.

Minimum Annual Subscription. 1/-